

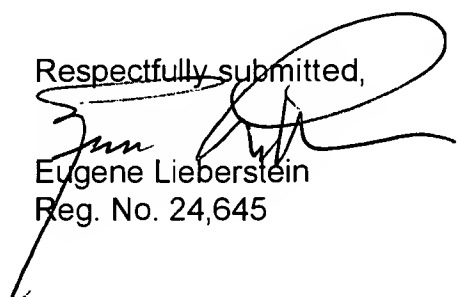
## REMARKS

The Examiner has indicated that claims 4 and 16 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Based upon the allowability of claims 4 and 16, claims 1 and 12 have been amended with claim 1 incorporating the features of claims 2 and 4 and claim 12 incorporating the features of claims 13, 14 and 16, respectively. All of the other claims are dependent upon claim 1 or have been amended to be dependent upon claim 1 or claim 12 or canceled. Accordingly, claims 1, 3, 5-7, 12, 15, 17 and 19-22 are now believed to be patentable over all of the references cited to date, taken individually or in combination.

Since claims 13 and 18 have been cancelled, the indication that they would be objected to under 37 CFR 1.03 is now moot.

Reconsideration and allowance of amended claims 1, 3, 5-7, 12, 15, 17 and 19-22 is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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## MAILING CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 10, 2006.

Signed:   
L. Felicetti

Dated: May 10, 2006